INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 03/01850

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 F16K47/12 F16K1/40 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) F16K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages US 5 495 963 A (MILLER SCOTT R ET AL) X 1-3.5.195 March 1996 (1996-03-05) column 7, line 18 - line 47; figures 3A,3B χ FR 1 495 670 A (MIYAWAKI TADASUKE) 1-3,5,6,22 September 1967 (1967-09-22) 19 page 2, right-hand column, paragraph 2; figure 1 Υ EP 0 076 893 A (REGEL MESSTECHNIK GMBH) 20 April 1983 (1983-04-20) page 4, line 13 - line 24; figure US 4 017 062 A (ZWIRNER ECKHARD) 12 April 1977 (1977-04-12) column 3, line 28 - line 61; figures 1-3 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. . Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the investor. "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the international document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another ditation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such document. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 09/10/2003 29 September 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Palentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Christensen, J

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